[*Note.*—**An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.**]

II.—ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE HON. CHAIRMAN *RE* MESSAGES FROM THE ASSEMBLY.

3-10 p.m. MR. CHAIRMAN : I have to announce to the House the following messages, dated the 28th June 1957, from the Hon. the Speaker, Madras Legislative Assembly :—

" In accordance with rule 114 of the Madras Assembly Rules, I transmit a copy of the Madras Payment of Salaries and Removal of Disqualifications (Amendment) Bill, 1957 (L.A. Bill No. 3 of 1957), as passed by the Assembly on the 28th June 1957 and signed by me, for the concurrence of the Council."

" In accordance with rule 114 of the Madras Assembly Rules, I transmit a copy of the Madras Sales of Motor Spirit Taxation (Amendment) Bill, 1957 (L.A. Bill No. 4 of 1957), as passed by the Assembly on the 28th June 1957 and signed by me, for the concurrence of the Council."

III.—GENERAL DISCUSSION ON THE BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 1957-58.

* SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : Mr. Chairman, Sir, in rising to speak on the Budget presented by the Hon. the Minister for Finance, let me, on behalf of the Members of this House, welcome you back to our midst. I am sure you have had a very useful time, visiting parliamentary institutions in foreign countries, and I trust you will, in the light of your new experience, introduce salutary changes in the procedure and practice in our Legislature, which would be conducive to greater efficiency and service on the part of the legislators.

We learn that the Leader of the Opposition is an important element in parliamentary institutions in other countries. Here, the Leader of the Opposition in this as well as in the other House has not even a separate office, not to speak of any secretarial assistance. I trust that, in consultation with the Hon. the Speaker of the Assembly, you will, with the rich experience gained on your recent visit to foreign countries, introduce necessary changes in the legislative machinery now existing here.

Also, the Chief Whip fulfils an important role in other Parliaments. The duties of the Whips and the functions to be discharged by them should, I think, be laid down by certain conventions and I hope, Sir, you will be able to introduce reform in this respect. I find that the Chief Whip of the Assembly is paid certain allowances. I do not see any reason why his opposite number in this House should not also have an office and other facilities. I hope that it will be possible to give similar allowances also to the Chief Whip of this House.

I also suggest for the consideration of the Government that, even as the Chairman and the Speaker have got opportunities of visiting the Parliaments of other countries and seeing them at work,